

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend claims 8, 9, 13 and 14.

Please cancel claims 10-12.

Please add new claims 15-17.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

1-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) An isolated antibody or antibody fragment ~~comprising an antibody or antibody fragment thereof, that specifically binding binds~~ to a heparin-binding growth factor (HBGF) polypeptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the HBGF polypeptide is an amino acid sequence of the carboxy terminal of a human connective tissue growth factor (CTGF) protein from amino acid residue 247 to residue 349, wherein the amino terminal sequence of the HBGF polypeptide begins with SEQ ID NO: 1; or wherein the amino acid sequence of the HBGF polypeptide is an amino acid sequence of the carboxy terminal of a human CTGF protein from amino acid residue 248 to residue 349, wherein the amino terminal sequence of the HBGF polypeptide begins with SEQ ID NO: 2.

9. (Currently amended) The antibody or antibody fragment of claim 1, wherein the HBGF polypeptide has to which the antibody specifically binds consists of an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2.

10-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) The antibody ~~or antibody fragment thereof~~ of claims 8 ~~or 11~~, wherein the antibody ~~or antibody fragment~~ is a monoclonal antibody.

14. (Currently amended) The antibody ~~or antibody fragment thereof~~ of claims 8 ~~or 11~~, wherein the antibody ~~or antibody fragment~~ is a polyclonal antibody.

15. (New) The antibody or antibody fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody specifically binds to the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

16. (New) The antibody or antibody fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody specifically binds to the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5.

17. (New) The antibody or antibody fragment of claim 1, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment does not bind with PDGF.